

RESEARCH STUDY PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve.

CONTACT DETAILS

Principal Investigator: Wendi Bacon, wendi.bacon@open.ac.uk

Independent contact: Francesco Crea, francesco.crea@open.ac.uk

GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of this research is to evaluate how martial arts uniforms fit and impact female practitioners. We aim to create a better alternative using this information, as well as amplify the voices of women through publication of key themes emerging from this survey and (optional) follow-up interview.

We at the OU are performing this work in partnership with Tamsin Davis, head of private company *MartialArts4Women*. We are working together to develop the resultant female martial arts uniform.

This work involves both a survey and (optional) follow-up interview/focus group.

This research project has received ethical approval from The Open University Human Research Ethics Committee – HREC reference number: 4351.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO IF I AGREE TO TAKE PART?

Participation is **entirely voluntary**. Identifying information will not be shared outside of the research team.

You will fill out the survey on your experiences in your martial arts uniform. This will take 5 – 10 minutes, depending on how much you have to say, and/or if you (optionally) take the time to provide measurements.

You can opt into a follow-up interview/focus group, about which you will be emailed if you decide to leave your email in the online survey form.

Participation will improve the understanding of problems in current martial arts uniforms so we can improve this.

HOW WILL THE DATA I PROVIDE BE USED?

Survey data will be anonymised. This means that only the head researcher will be able to see your answers with your email address to in any way indicate your identity, and anything you write in the survey that could be traced back to you will be removed. The resulting anonymised data will be shared with the research team for thematic analysis (where researchers look for trends across the answers) and quantitative analysis (where researchers compare numerical answers, such as where you rate a topic on a scale of 1-10). Uniform data will be used to inform uniform prototyping, and in combination with thematic analysis used to publish a peer-reviewed journal article (or articles). Sizing data will be used to generate a bespoke sizing chart for producing the uniform.

(Optional) interview data will add to the thematic analysis, providing additional (anonymised) quotes.

Identifying information (namely the optional email addresses) will be removed prior to thematic analysis. Identifying information will be kept on OU protected servers for up to 5 years prior to deletion. These will only be accessible by Wendi Bacon, PI of this project.

YOUR RIGHT TO WITHDRAW FROM THE STUDY

You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time by emailing wendi.bacon@open.ac.uk. You cannot withdraw beyond one month past submission of the survey.

HOW DO I AGREE TO TAKE PART?

To participate, please indicate your consent in the consent section at the beginning of the online survey.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for reading this information sheet and participating in our study.

To be notified of any results to this study or others, or to find out about future studies in which you could participate, you can subscribe to our mailing list: <https://better-martial-arts.org/#subscribe>

DATA PROTECTION

The Open University is the Data Controller for the personal data that you provide.

The lawful reason for processing your data will be that conducting academic research is part of The Open University’s public task. The consent we request from you relates to ethical considerations.

No personal data (name) will be shared outside of the OU and data will be anonymised prior to sharing beyond the PI, Wendi Bacon.

You have a number of rights as a data subject:

- To request a copy of the personal data we have about you
- To rectify any personal data which is inaccurate or incomplete
- To restrict the processing of your data
- To receive a copy of your data in an easily transferrable format (if relevant)
- To erase your data
- To object to us processing your data

If you are concerned about the way we have processed your personal information, you can contact the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). Please visit the ICO’s website for further details.